

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on World  
Intellectual Property Organization Treaties  
*April 4, 2001*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

As required by the second proviso of the text of the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty and the World Intellectual Property Organization Performances and Phonograms Treaty, passed by the Senate on October 21, 1998, I transmit herewith the second

report on the status of the ratification of those treaties and related matters.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Remarks and a Question-and-Answer Session With the American Society  
of Newspaper Editors  
*April 5, 2001*

*The President.* My fellow Texan—[*laughter*—by way of other States. [*Laughter*] It's good to see you again, Rich; thank you. I've had a great relationship with Rich in Austin, Texas. He occasionally opined in ways I didn't care for, but I always knew he was honest and open. He had his priorities straight: his country and his family. It's good to see members of his family here. I see you lowered your standards by inviting others from the Austin American-Statesman here to Washington today—[*laughter*—particularly Herman. [*Laughter*]

At any rate, it's my honor to be here. It turns out every President since Warren Harding has spoken to this group. I found that interesting. Harding came here because he was a newspaperman himself. The rest of us just wanted to pander. [*Laughter*]

Of course, with a lot of attention you get as the President, you often occasionally get criticism, and I understand that. You know, I admit, I take it pretty well; after

all, I was in baseball. But I wish some of the stories had come out differently.

And so, in the spirit of constructive criticism, I thought I'd make some suggestions to you as to some of the headlines I'd like to see in the future: "Cheney Cloned"—[*laughter*—"President Has Nothing To Do at All Now." [*Laughter*] "Two Million Overlooked Ballots Suggest Bush Won California." [*Laughter*] "Sri Lanka President Chandrika Kumaratunga Stumped By Name of U.S. President." [*Laughter*] "Gephardt Says Bush Tax Plan 'Just Makes Sense'." [*Laughter*] And finally: "Sammy Sosa Returns to the Rangers"—[*laughter*—"Says: 'I Want To Go Home'." [*Laughter*]

But I'm really not here to tell you your business. It's your job to tell everyone how to run theirs—[*laughter*—and you do a pretty good job at it. Few American figures are more legendary than the hard-bitten but idealistic news editor. And I'm aware of that. After all, I've sat through what seems like hundreds of editorial boards.